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**FOURTH MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT FOR THEFTS OF  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FROM VERIZON  
BUILDINGS IN NEW YORK AREA**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today the guilty plea in White Plains federal court of LARRY D. DAVIS, one of the men arrested in connection with the attempted theft of more than \$600,000 of telecommunications equipment from the Verizon Building in White Plains, New York, on the night before Thanksgiving in 2004. Phone service interruptions were reported by consumers in the Westchester area that night. DAVIS is the fourth man to plead guilty in connection with the attempted theft and to admit involvement in a conspiracy to steal approximately \$2.4 million of telecommunications equipment from Verizon buildings in the New York metropolitan area.

DAVIS was arrested on November 24, 2004, with GAILICAN PHILLIPS. According to the Complaint, officers from the White Plains Police Department, responding to a report, observed DAVIS and PHILLIPS in front of the Verizon Building in White Plains, New

York, pushing carts containing a large number of computer chip boards. After a brief chase, DAVIS and PHILLIPS were apprehended. In a post-arrest statement, PHILLIPS stated that he and DAVIS had removed the computer chip boards from the Verizon Building and planned to deliver them to a co-conspirator, who intended to ship them to a company in California. The computer chip boards ranged in value from \$5000 to \$70,000, and totaled more than \$600,000.

Two other men were arrested in May 2005 in connection with the case: ROBERT MORRIS and DARRELL FORDE. MORRIS and FORDE along with DAVIS participated in a conspiracy with PHILLIPS to transport stolen computer router boards from New York to California, according to the Indictment.

According to the Indictment, an Information, and statements made during plea proceedings, MORRIS and FORDE participated in four attempts with PHILLIPS to steal a total of approximately \$2.39 million worth of computer chip boards from various New York metropolitan area Verizon buildings during August 2003 through November 2004. Three of these attempts were successful. The clipboards were sent or intended to be sent to a party in California. DAVIS was charged with participating in two of these thefts.

During his plea allocution, FORDE admitted that he had worked as a technician for a telecommunications company and had access to Verizon buildings in the New York metropolitan area. FORDE further admitted that he met with PHILLIPS inside each

Verizon building shortly before each actual theft in order to specify what equipment PHILLIPS should steal. In two cases, according to the Indictment, DAVIS and PHILLIPS physically removed the computer router boards from the Verizon buildings. On both occasions, DAVIS said during his plea allocution, he used a walkie talkie to communicate with other members of the conspiracy who were outside of the building maintaining a look out for the police.

DAVIS, 44, of Brooklyn, New York, pleaded guilty before United States Magistrate Judge LISA MARGARET SMITH to the two counts of the Indictment in which he had been charged. DAVIS is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge STEPHEN C. ROBINSON in White Plains federal court on January 6, 2006. DAVIS faces a maximum sentence of fifteen years' imprisonment, and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for each count or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime, plus restitution not to exceed \$2 million.

PHILLIPS, 35, of New York, New York, pleaded guilty on May 18, 2005, to a five-count Information. PHILLIPS is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge ROBINSON on October 21, 2005, and faces a maximum sentence of forty years' imprisonment, and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for each count or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime, plus restitution not to exceed \$2 million.

MORRIS, 42, of Queens, New York, pleaded guilty on August

17, 2005 to all four counts in the Indictment. MORRIS is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge ROBINSON on November 17, 2005, and faces a maximum sentence of thirty-five years' imprisonment, and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for each count or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime, plus restitution not to exceed \$2 million.

FORDE, 36, of Queens, New York, pleaded guilty on August 8, 2005, to all four counts in the Indictment. FORDE is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge ROBINSON on November 7, 2005, and faces a maximum sentence of thirty-five years' imprisonment, and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for each count or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime, plus restitution not to exceed \$2 million.

MR. GARCIA praised the investigative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and thanked the White Plains Police Department for assisting in the investigation as well.

Assistant United States Attorney JESSE M. FURMAN is in charge of the prosecution.

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